

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 156769  
ORIGIN NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 INR-10 SIG-03 CIAE-00 /037 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:MACASEY:DWL  
APPROVED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER  
NEA/IRN - MGREENE  
NEA/ARP - BBODINE  
EUR/WE - MLISSFOLDT  
INR - DLONG

-----006291 202314Z /66

P 202147Z JUN 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USINT BAGHDAD PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY MANAMA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT  
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
AMEMBASSY DOHA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 156769

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, IZ, SA, IR

SUBJECT: NY TIMES ARTICLE ON GULF SECURITY DISCUSSIONS

REF: MANAMA 1368

1. JUNE 18 NY TIMES FLORA LEWIS ARTICLE, CITING FRENCH AND  
OTHER SOURCES, ALLEGED THAT IRAQ, IRAN AND SAUDI ARABIA ARE  
ENGAGED IN TALKS POSSIBLY LEADING TO A GULF SECURITY  
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ARRANGEMENT. AS AN INDICATION OF THE THREE COUNTRIES'  
APPROACH, LEWIS NOTED IRAQ'S PLANS TO DEVELOP ITS NAVY  
IN A MANNER COMPLEMENTARY TO THOSE OF THE OTHER TWO  
COUNTRIES, AS WELL IRAQ'S APPARENT DISINCLINATION TO RELY  
ON THE USSR FOR NAVAL VESSELS. LEWIS ALSO STATED THAT THE  
IRAQIS HAVE INITIATED INQUIRIES IN FRANCE AND ITALY FOR  
NAVAL CRAFT TO PATROL THE GULF, IN PARTICULAR THE HORMUZ

STRAIT AREA. ARTICLE ATTRIBUTED DEVELOPMENT OF BAGHDAD'S POSITION TO DISENCHANTMENT WITH THE SOVIET-CUBAN SUPPORT FOR ETHIOPIA AND THE PROSPECTS OF DRIVE TO ESTABLISH FIRM EHIOPIAN CONTROL OVER MUSLIM ERITREA.

2. WE ALSO NOTE PARA TWO OF REFTEL THAT SHAH MAY BE CONSIDERING CLOSER RELATIONS WITH IRAQ IN REACTION TO HIS GROWING CONCERN ABOUT SOVIET INFLUENCE IN THE GENERAL AREA

AND HAVE SEEN REPORTS OVER RECENT MONTHS THAT SAUDI ARABIA, IRAN, AND SMALLER GULF STATES (EXCLUDING IRAQ) ARE IN CONSULTATION ABOUT INTERNAL SECURITY AND OIL FIELD SECURITY QUESTIONS. WE HAVE SEEN NO EVIDENCE, HOWEVER, THAT A GULF SECURITY ARRANGEMENT OF THE SORT DESCRIBED BY LEWIS HAS BEEN UNDER ACTIVE DISCUSSION AMONG GULF MODERATES, MUCH LESS WITH IRAQ, SINCE ABORTIVE MUSCAT MEETING IN LATE 1976.

3. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE ANY LIGHT ADDRESSEES, PARTICULARLY PARIS, CAN SHED ON STORY WITHOUT APPROACH TO HOST GOVERNMENT FOR THE TIME BEING.

4. FYI: STORY CARRIED IN JUNE 19 ME WIRELESS FILE.

5. FOR BAGHDAD: FULL TEXT OF ARTICLE POUCHED. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SECURITY, GULFS, PRESS RELEASES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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